



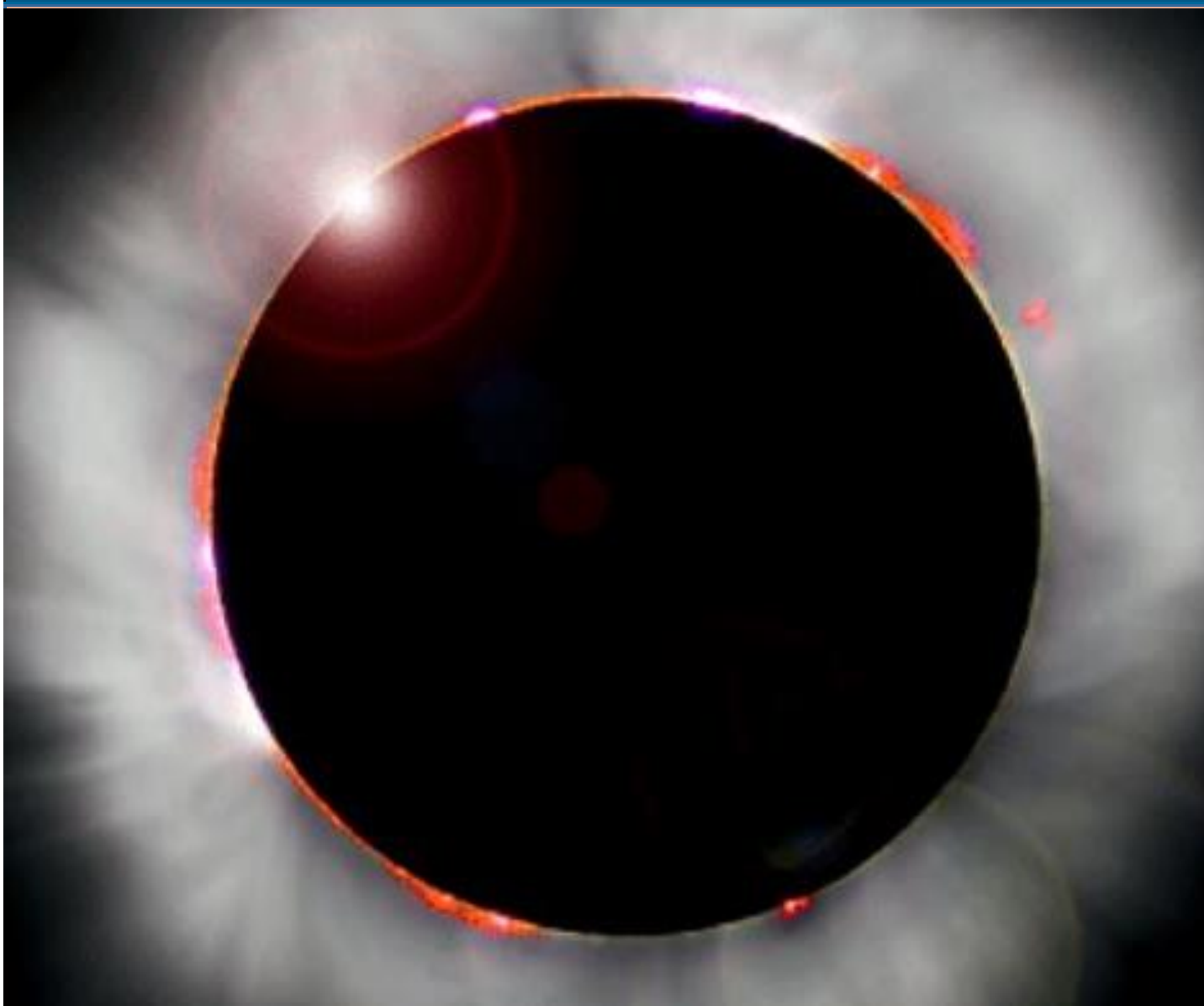
The

GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
August 2017 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 26, Issue 8



On August 21 see a Total Eclipse, not seen in Mainland USA since 1979!



WARNING: Do not stare at this photo without special NASA glasses! (Just Kidding!)

Message from the President

Good news: Gwinnett County has waived the requirement that our insurance policy give them a “[waiver of subrogation](#)”. This will allow the antenna work on the county owned towers to proceed. The Board has authorized a substantial expenditure for new antennas, hardware, and repeater equipment. Hopefully we will soon eliminate some of the coverage dead spots and hear the improvements to the system.

According to the minutes of the ARRL BoD meeting last month, the ARRL is looking for ways to enhance the entry level license. From the recent ARRL newsletter: *“The general goal here is to have an entry-level license that offers a way for a newcomer to experience multiple facets of Amateur Radio, the committee's report said, encouraging them to get on the air, meet other licensees, and engage in a lifetime of learning while using Amateur Radio.”* Suggestions including adding digital privileges and voice privileges to the 80, 40, and 15 meter bands. According to the ARRL, this could be done without changes to the exam question pool and would be a simple FCC rule change.

As W4KLY says, it appears that the average age of our club members is going up by 1 each year. I know for me my 56 years of ham radio operations has allowed me a lifelong learning experience as I moved from traffic handling to DXing. I came into the hobby as we were moving from AM to SSB and from tubes to solid state. I saw the computers move from beside to inside the radios! It has been a challenge to keep up! As for meeting other licensees, if it had not been for ham radio, I wouldn't have had nearly as many (or as interesting) friends over the years. ARRL I think it's a good idea! I'll be interested to hear what you think.



“...it appears that the average age of our club members is going up by 1 each year. I know for me my 56 years of ham radio operations has allowed me a lifelong learning experience...”

As you know by now, August 21st there will be a 97% total eclipse of the sun. The moon will pass between earth and the sun at approximately 2:36 pm. Only a small crescent of the sun won't be blocked by the moon. That small crescent however is still bright enough to burn the retina of your eye! Be safe and use NASA approved viewing glasses if you plan

to observe. HamSCI <http://www.hamsci.org/basic-project/2017-total-solar-eclipse> is a citizen science study group that is looking to answer some questions about what happens propagation-wise during an eclipse. For

example, does the D layer of absorption dissipate? Is there a gray line effect? Go check out their website and plan to operate before and after the few minutes of totality. If you can, catch Mike KK4KHS from his campsite in Vogel State Park. I hope you will play in the eclipse QSO party, but don't forget to actually watch the eclipse. It won't happen again until 2024!

This month's program promises to be an interesting one! W7QO, Alan Adamson, will talk about ballooning and using APRS and GPS to track them.

Come get to know some of your fellow club members before the meeting. Some meet for dinner at the Five Spot and some at the Flying Machine.

73, *Mike Weathers*, ND4V

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]

GARS August Meeting

“Orbiting” Balloons

By Alan Adamson, W7QO

Tuesday, August 8, 2017 7:00 pm

**Sports Aviation Complex—Hangar 1
690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045**

[Directions to EAA Hangar](#)

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GARS Communications

<u>2 Meter Repeaters</u> 147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5 147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2	Other Resources: <u>APRS</u> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR <u>D-Star</u> WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)
<u>6 Meter Repeater</u> 53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone (Offline for Maintenance)	
<u>70 Cm Repeaters</u> 444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5 442.100(+) MHz Tone 100 442.325(+) MHz Tone 100	

**Don't forget
to support our
advertisers at the
back of the
GARzette.**

Cover Photo Source: <http://www.arrl.org/images/view/News/SEQP%20logo.JPG>

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to editor@gars.org. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The *GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: editor@gars.org
Bill Eggers—WB2RIS 470-238-9603



Member QRZ Pages

For a few months we will be featuring the QRZ page of various members of GARS.

This month we are featuring the QRZ page of :

N0DIM - Mitch Matteau

When you click on the link below you will find this picture.

<http://qrz.com/lookup/N0DIM>

Read the notes and get to know him better. You'll be glad you did.

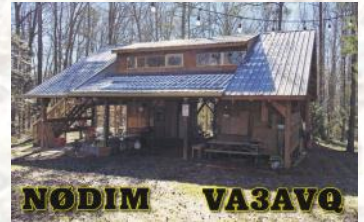
Here is an excerpt from the page:

I am mainly active in 2 meter local communications and enjoy the public service aspect of our hobby, and am an ARRL-accredited VE, as well as a W5YI VE. I dabble in HF and have recently installed a G5RV antenna at my remote QTH in Hartwell, GA. I use a CrankIR (great antenna!) for portable use and recently installed another G5RV in my home QTH.

I also have an Advanced license in Canada with the alternate callsign [VA3AVQ](http://qrz.com/lookup/VA3AVQ).

My remote QTH: (See picture at right - Ed.)

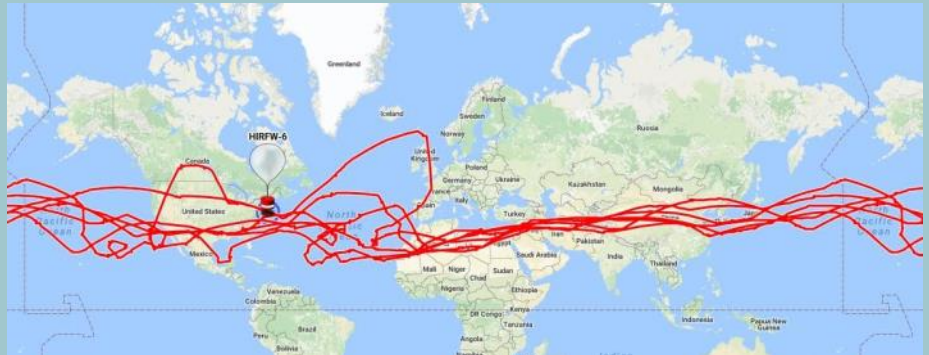
Watch for another featured GARS member QRZ page in next month's GARzette!



News, Press Releases, & General Interest

Alan Adamson, W7QO will be our speaker at the August 8 Meeting

Our speaker at this month's meeting will be Alan Adamson, W7QO. Alan has over 30 years experience working with communications and security products including radio and GPS tracking systems. His working career included engineering and product management positions with BellSouth, Hayes Communications and Symantec. He has held an Extra Class Amateur Radio license for over 30 years. Alan's presentation will cover his experiences involving unmanned balloon flights incorporating APRS and GPS technology. Alan holds the record for the longest duration balloon flight (over 200 days), the longest distance balloon flight (over 300,000 miles), most number of circumnavigations, lightest trackable payload, and the largest number of consecutive days receiving reports from a non-satellite system. Plan to attend the meeting to hear what will definitely be an interesting and exciting presentation.



Picture: Track from W7QO HIRF(W)-6 Balloon flight, launched Sept 20, 2016 1005Z (6 globe circumnavigations)

<https://www.qrp-labs.com/circumnavigators.html#hurf6>

Dog Show

Summer Dog Show 08/24/17 - 08/27/2017

Location: Atlanta Expo Centers South, [map](#)

Notes: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

We need your help to have enough folks to do the job from

2 split shifts each day: 6:00am until 10:00am, 10:00am until 2:00pm. GARS and Gwinnett ARES provide parking lot supervision for the Cherokee Rose Cluster Dog Show.

Click here to [help with the Dog Show](#)

What you will likely be doing: helping guide dog lovers to a parking space, keeping dog lovers from parking where they should not, reporting incidents and helping to keep traffic flowing in the parking lot and around the building.

Starting sometime after 5:00am each morning you will probably find some traffic on the GARS repeater. But once we're on site, the repeater doesn't work. We'll be using our portable repeater which is 147.045 tone 82.5 and a minus offset. This offset is not standard, so be sure to double check your programming.

If you don't think you can put in a complete day, then let dog@gars.org know, and be there from 9:00am till whenever, or come around noon and relieve someone for a couple hours. The busy hours are from 8:00 till about 11:30.

This project isn't for everyone, but if you like to spend mornings with some of your fellow amateur radio friends, you like the outdoors, and look forward to telling a tall tale or two and at the same time help fund some of our projects, then "COME ON DOWN".

You will be out in the weather, so dress appropriately. Since you'll likely be standing, good foot wear is important. Bring a folding chair in the slight chance you may be able to sit for a few moments. If you're there early, a small flashlight might help (more for being seen than seeing). Bring Rain Gear as appropriate. We'll have water on site and there is a snack bar on site.

If you have a 2 meter hand held, bring it and a spare battery, but it's not a show stopper.

The show is called:
The Cherokee Rose Cluster

Held at:
[Atlanta Expo Centers South](#),
3850 Jonesboro Rd
Atlanta, GA 30354

If you have any questions email dog@gars.org

Thanks and 73,

David, KA4KKF



GARS Happenings

The August meeting of the GARS Board Meeting was held outside because nobody was available to let us inside the building. This was an opportunity to see our Executive Board in action...



General Class License HamCram Exam Session Results

We had an excellent exam session at our General Class License HamCram. 12 out of 14 applicants passed! Congratulations to John, WB4QDX and Ralph, KJ4CNC for another job WELL DONE!!!

Exam session results:

- 2 new General (passed Technician and General)
- 10 upgraded to General

Special thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:

- Dave, W4DTR (CVE)
- Frank, KV4SP
- Chuck, KK4TKJ (Co-CVE)
- Donna, KM4FMW
- Yolanda, KM4AAQ
- Rick, N4XYY
- Sid, N4NQ (Co-CVE)
- Pam, WB1AKQ
- Bill, WB4WTN
- Lou, NY4F
- John, WB4QDX
- Ralph, KJ4CNC

Thanks & 73, *Dave Bruse*, W4DTR
GARS VE Team Leader

2017 May Madness winner Bill WR1TR with his "Tube Trophy", built by Paul Kelley W4KLY. Congratulations Bill!



Solar Eclipse

Many Special Events Will Be on the Air to Mark the Total Solar Eclipse in August

Radio amateurs from several states will gather in southern Illinois on August 17-21 to operate special event station [W9E](#), leading up to and during the 2017 solar eclipse on August 21. W9E will operate from Marion, Illinois.

“This will be the first total eclipse on American soil since 1991, the first on the mainland United States since 1979 and the first to sweep across the entire country since 1918. It will be an event you do not want to miss!” the W9E announcement said. “The far southern tip of the state of Illinois is the only place viewers can see the totality of the eclipse.”

W9E plans to operate on 80, 40, and 20 meters (and perhaps other bands, if conditions permit), on CW, SSB, and digital modes (JT65, JT9, and PSK31). All amateur operators visiting the area for the eclipse are invited to visit. A copy of your license and photo ID are required to operate. Amateur Radio license testing also will be offered during the event.

Solar Eclipse QSO Party

The Solar Eclipse QSO Party ([SEQP](#)), sponsored by [HamSCI](#), will take place on August 21, 1400 to 2200 UTC. As the *QST* article “[The Solar Eclipse QSO Party — Are You Ready?](#)” explains, “The objective...is to flood the airwaves with contacts, all measured by the automated receiver networks of the Reverse Beacon Network, PSKReporter, and WSPRNet. When those observations are combined with the logs from individual stations, the result will be one of the largest ionospheric experiments ever performed.”

Search the [ARRL Special Events Calendar](#) for additional total eclipse special event operations.

Excerpt from <http://www.arrl.org/news/many-special-events-will-be-on-the-air-to-mark-the-total-solar-eclipse-in-august>

Amateur Radio Participation is Key to University Solar Eclipse Experiment

[Virginia Tech](#) electrical engineering professor Greg Earle, W4GDE, is heading up a National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded solar eclipse experiment dubbed CEDAR — Coupling, Energetics, and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions. The experiment proposes to study the effects on the ionosphere of the August 21 total eclipse of the sun, using a combination of GPS receivers, the university’s [SuperDARN](#) (Super Dual Auroral Radar Network) radar system, HF Amateur Radio, and plasma modeling. Several graduate students and researchers, as well as the Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Association (K4KDJ) and the Amateur Radio community at large have been recruited to help.

“We want to understand how the ionosphere is affected by blockage of sunlight over a relatively short interval (~2 hours), understand how man-made systems are affected by the changes in the ionosphere, and use the data to improve our numerical models,” Earle told ARRL, noting that the “plan has morphed a bit” since the initial proposal of more than a year ago. Virginia Tech students Magdalena Moses, KM4EGE, and Xiaoyu “Harry” Han, KM4ICI, along with Tech electrical engineering professor Bob McGwier, N4HY, are among those pitching in.

Earle and his team will use the data they collect to characterize ionospheric plasma density variations caused by the eclipse, measure HF scintillation — rapid fluctuation of signal phase and/or amplitude — during the eclipse, study the motions of plasma irregularities produced in both the E and F layers, and use numerical models to test cause-and-effect scenarios to compare with empirical data.

“The proposed study will utilize diagnostic capabilities that have never before been used to study a mid-latitude eclipse,” the CEDAR abstract explains. “Through this work we will answer several fundamental questions that remain unresolved, despite previous eclipse studies, and we will engage a huge cohort of non-scientists in gathering data that will constrain our models and enrich our understanding of ionospheric behavior.”

Understanding the data and comparing it to models can help scientists better analyze the effects of space weather events on Earth, Earle said.

Excerpt from <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-participation-is-key-to-university-solar-eclipse-experiment>

Beginner's Corner

Electricity and You

(Most of the following was written by John, K7HB.—Ed.)

Some time ago I visited with a local ham that had a problem with his main radio power supply. As emergency communications folks, we all know that if you have three of something then you really have two, if you have two of something then you have a spare, and if you have only one of something – you really have none. He was at the point that he had none and could have been completely off of the air. However, he was prepared with chargers for some of his hand held radios and was able to keep a low power radio on the air. Under adverse conditions we can only do what we can and we sometimes have to revert to backup equipment.

When he and I looked at his station I asked him if he had checked the fuse on the power supply. He said that his brother in law had and that it was good. So, in went a replacement supply and away went the failed unit.

When I checked the failed unit's fuse it was bad, it had been vaporized. Wow! If something vaporizes a fuse then it is a good bet that just sticking another fuse back in will not solve the problem.

The Technician class just covered fuses and circuit breakers and the ARRL makes the strong point that a fuse should be replaced with the same current and voltage value as the original. That helps minimize the collateral damage to your house or radio shack if electronic components start melting and a 20 Amp transformer based power supply could do some serious melting.

Which brought to mind a couple other electrical experiences over the last several weeks.

A local ham had disconnected his antennas and unplugged the radio and lightning still managed to destroy one of his radios. Lightning can do funny things that are not so funny to those of us that receive them.

For example, during the brief storm we had last week, the sideways rain, 60 mph + winds and lightening were bad enough that they prevented our hand held radios from reaching the 442 repeater! Usually we can do that easily but not during that storm. Also, despite houses supposedly being wired for safety our land line phone, microwave, and toaster oven stopped working – all at the same time.

Lessons: have a spare for everything, use proper fuses and breakers, and if in doubt pull the plug out!

(And from KJ4CMY—Ed.) I know personally of someone who had had a similar experience. He was a member of a local club. Lightning struck his house and destroyed a radio that had both the power and antenna unplugged. It is always a good idea to completely disconnect a radio while not in use. If a strong thunderstorm comes your way, it might be advisable to completely remove your equipment from the antenna and power inputs.

73 de *David Harden*, KJ4CMY



Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only fifteen primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXXV	Kyle - W4KDA	Mitch - N0DIM
Ruth - KM4LAO	Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL
Ray - N4GYN	Sandy - KJ4DRO	John - WB4QDX
Bill - KK4AUA	David - KK4KAF	Kevin - KK4WOG
Chuck - KK4TKJ	Mike - KK4KHS	Donna - KM4FMW

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I really need 26 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at KK4TKJ@arrl.net. Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ

GARS Net Manager



Don't miss the “KNOW IT ALL” Net Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

Jeff—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 + PL 82.5

(NOTE: The KNOW IT ALL net will take the rest of the summer off, and will resume in October)

GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in July

Angelo Bione (WB9RWL)

New Members: 1

**Total Members as of August 1, 2017
284**

**Join us for our weekly
breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays
at**

**Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043**

([Directions](#))

**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in August:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS**

**Emory Albritton
Kyle Albritton (W4KDA)
Bruce Brown (WA8IQF)
Stephen Dearman (KI4IXR)
Richard Dickson (W4WRD)
John Dreggors (K4SWV)
George Guerin (KM4BOS)
David Harden (KJ4CMY)
Richard Jones (KM4JLB)
Gary Jones (WW4HX)
Mark Koenig (KM4AJE)
Doug Kregel (KB6RRX)
Kim Kropat (K4UAL)
Ron Langston (WE5O)
Louis Manglass III (N4WWU)
Samuel McClure (KM4AAO)
Robert Sloan (WA4DD)
Laurence Whited (AB4NX)
Billy Zeyher (AB4RH)**

GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please e-mail the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar

> NOTE: For more information click the links <

August 2017

- 5-6 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)
- 19-20 [10 GHz and Up - Round 1](#)
- 20 [Rookie Roundup - RTTY](#)

September 2017

- 9-10 [EME - 2.3 GHz and Up](#)
- 9-11 [September VHF QSO Party](#)
- 16-17 [10 GHz and Up - Round 2](#)

October 2017

- 7-8 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 16-20 [School Club Roundup](#)

November 2017

- 4-5 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 4-6 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)
- 18-20 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)

December 2017

- 1-3 [160 Meter](#)
- 9-10 [10 Meter](#)
- 17 [Rookie Roundup-CW](#)

2018

January 2018

- 1 [Straight Key Night](#)
- 6 **Kid's Day**
- 6-7 [RTTY Roundup](#)
- 17 [January VHF Sweepstakes](#)

February 2018

- 12-16 [School Club Roundup](#)
- 17-18 [International DX - CW](#)

March 2018

- 3-4 [International DX- Phone](#)

April 2018

- 15 [Rookie Roundup - Phone](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

HAMFEST CALENDAR

08/19/2017 | [Alabama State Convention](#)

Location: Huntsville, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Huntsville Amateur Association

Website: <http://www.hamfest.org>

09/16/2017 | [68th Annual Augusta Hamfest](#)

Location: Grovetown, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Amateur Radio Club of Augusta

Website: <http://w4dv.org>

10/21/2017 | [Hamfest Chattanooga 2017](#)

Location: East Ridge, TN

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.hamfestchattanooga.net>

10/28/2017 | [LaGrange Hamfest](#)

Location: LaGrange, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: LaGrange Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.lagrangeradioclub.org>

10/28/2017 | [Jacksonville FREE Hamfest](#)

Location: Jacksonville, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: North Florida Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://nofars.net>

11/04/2017 | [Georgia State Convention](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Alford Memorial Radio Club

Website: <http://stonemountainhamfest.com/>

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>



BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

Venture Crew 73 is for you.

If you are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ *Camping*
- ◊ *Hiking*
- ◊ *Horseback Riding*
- ◊ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

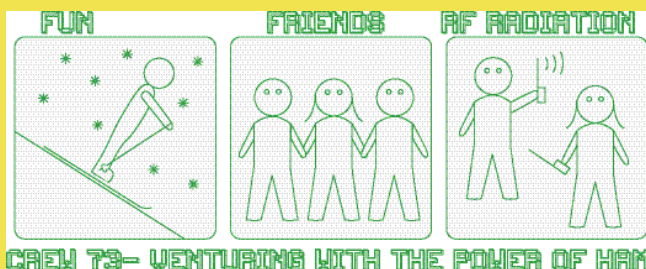
Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman
Phone: 770-712-9069

E-mail: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Kevin McClure, KF4HFN

Venture Crew 73 Advisor
Phone: 706 318 2519

Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org



G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

Mike Weathers President	ND4V	
Rick Cobb Vice President	N4XY	
Leland Ford Secretary	K9SDR	
Sid Weaver Treasurer	N4NQ	
Paul Kelley Program Manager	W4KLY	
Karen Albritton Membership Chair	K14HPP	
Dave Bruse VE Team Leader	W4DTR	
David Adcock Webmaster and Field Day Chair	KA4KKF	
Dorothy Jubon Public Information Officer	N2DLJ	
Ralph Pickwick Apparel Manager and Education Chair	KJ4CNC	
Neal Gilchrist TechFest Chair	W4HNG	
Bill Eggers GARzette Editor	WB2RIS	
Bill Cherepy W4GR Trustee	WB4WTN	
Eddie Foust Repeater Chair	WD4JEM	
Mike Weathers WAS-Checker and Historian	ND4V	
Chuck McCord Net Manager	KK4TKJ	
Mike Swiderski Technical / RFI Advisor	K4HBI	
Mitch Matteau Winter Field Day Chair	N0DIM	
Pam Meridy GA QSO Party Chair	WB1AKQ	
Kyle Albritton Multimedia Chair	W4KDA	

DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton	W4KDA	
David Adcock	KA4KKF	
Norm Schklar	WA4ZXV	

EXTRA! EXTRA!

September Meeting

TBA

Repeater Status

442.325 operational in Buford
147.075 operational in Snellville
147.255 operation in Snellville
444.525 operational in Snellville
Link remote receivers being added
442.100 operational at Goshen Springs
6M currently down

JULY MEETING MINUTES

President Mike Weathers, ND4V called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

First time visitors and new members were welcomed. Introductions were given. Attendance: 54

General Business

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasure's report was approved.

Karen, KI4HPP, gave the membership report: GARS has 294 members.

Program Chair Paul Kelley, W4KLY, mentioned that our speaker for this evening is Steve Hudson, AA4BW. He will be presenting a program on QRP. Program for next month will be Balloons and Amateur Radio.

Event Recaps & General Updates

David Adcock, KA4KKF, reported on field day results. Ruth Willet, KM4LAO, was the top point getter for the club with 18% of the total contacts made. As a club, we were down in points a little bit from last year. David's efforts in making Field Day a success was acknowledged.

President Mike mentioned the Kroger rewards program and encouraged everyone to designate their rewards to GARS. Details are in the GARzette. Dave Bruse, W4DTR, reminded everyone about the Amazon Smiles Program from which we have received \$300+.

Venture Crew 73 Leader Steve Back, WB2OGY, mentioned the Scouts National Jamboree coming up. Station K2BSA will be on the air. Please contact the scouts and make it a special experience for them.

Paul Kelley, W4KLY, reminded everyone about Ruth Willet's article in the QST magazine this month. It was about her trip to the island of SABA on her Youth DX Adventure.

Upcoming Events

Mike Smith, KK4KHS, mentioned the Alford Memorial Radio Club is sponsoring a special event at Vogel State Park the weekend of the August 21 eclipse. Also, Michael Corey, K11U, will be the special speaker at the Stone Mountain Hamfest this fall. He is the Emergency Preparedness manager for the ARRL. Theme for the Hamfest will be emergency communications.

General Ham Cram will be July 22 and 29.

Volunteer exam monthly session is coming up August 13.

Huntsville Hamfest will be August 19-20.

Dog Show August 24-27. At least twelve volunteers are needed for each of the four days. It is a major fundraiser for GARS and ARES each year. Signup sheet is on the [GARS website](#).

Program

Steve Hudson, AA4BW, presented the program on "QRP Reduce Power".

Meeting concluded at 8:45pm.

73, *Leland*, K9SDR, Secretary



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GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net +
8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
(currently on hiatus, resumes October 2017)
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- ◆ Second Sunday at 2:00 pm: GARS Ham Exam Session, Fire Station #24
2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd
Buford, GA 30519

EXTRA! EXTRA!

GARS Calendar of Events for 2017

- GARS Breakfast - Every Saturday morning
- GARS Ham Exam Session - 2nd Sunday every month
- Dog Show Fundraisers February and August
- Tech HamCrams March, October
- TechFest January 14
- Winter Field Day January 28 & 29
- Georgia QSO Party April 8 & 9
- North metro area Fox Hunt April
- May Madness May 5 - 14
- Memorial Day Parade May 29
- ARC/KARC Hamfest June 3 (1st Saturday)
- Field Day June 24 & 25
- General HamCram July 22 & 29
- Sept VHF/UHF Contest September 9
- JOTA - 3rd Weekend of ... October
- Maker Faire October 22
- Stone Mt. Hamfest Nov 4 & 5
- Christmas Party TBA

GARS on Social Media



Join the GARS Yahoo Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/gars/info>



Visit GARS on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681>



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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAGLc7omnG0uihWunbcUsFw>



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GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
July 30	July 31	1	2	3	4	5 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
6	7 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	8 5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Meeting	9 Know-It-All Net resumes in October	10	11	12 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
13 GARS VE Team Testing Session Starts at 2:00 pm Gwinnett Co. Fire Station #24	14 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	15	16 Know-It-All Net resumes in October	17	18	19 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
20	21 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	22	23 Know-It-All Net resumes in October	24 6am-2pm 2 shifts Dog Show Fund Raiser ATL Expo Center	25 6am-2pm 2 shifts Dog Show Fund Raiser ATL Expo Center	26 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast 6am-2pm 2 shifts Dog Show Fund Raiser
27 6am-2pm 2 shifts Dog Show Fund Raiser ATL Expo Center	28 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	29	30 Know-It-All Net resumes in October	31	Sept 1	Sept 2 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at http://www.arrl-ga.org.</i></p> <p>First Sunday, ODD Months 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov) VEC: WCARS Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 w4rlg@bellsouth.net</p> <p>First Sunday, EVEN Months 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) VEC: WCARS Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p>Second Saturday 10:00 AM Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center 13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004 Ian Kahn, KM4IK E-mail: km4ik.ian@gmail.com</p> <p>Second Saturday, ODD Months VEC: ARRL 8:30 a.m. GMC Community Ctr 5325 Leon St. Stone Mountain, GA Frank Haynes, KV4SP (678) 467-3712</p> <p>Second Sunday VEC: W5YI 2 pm Fire Station #24 Mall of Georgia Boulevard Buford, GA 30519 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR E-mail: exams@gars.org</p> <p>Third Saturday VEC: W5YI 2 pm @ Barrow Co. Emerg. Serv. Bldg 66 McElroy Street Winder, GA 30680 Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 E-mail: n5smd@comcast.net</p> <p>(cont. next column)</p>	<p>July Results</p> <p>We had an excellent monthly exam session on July 9. 4 out of 4 applicants passed!</p> <p>Exam session results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 new Technician - 1 upgraded to General - 1 upgraded to Amateur Extra <p>Special thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bill, WB4WTN - Steve, WB2OGY - Frank, KV4SP - Dave, W4DTR (CVE) - Larry, AB4NX - Chuck, KK4TKJ (Co-CVE) <p>73, <i>Sid</i>, N4NQ (Co-CVE)</p> <p>GARS VE Team Leaders E-mail: exams@gars.org</p> <p>GARS VE Website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p>Fourth Sunday 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. For more information go to www.w4aql.com and click on "Test Sessions"</p>	<p>First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p>First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-)</p> <p>N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library 1344 South Broad Street, Commerce Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+), PL 123.0</p> <p>Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p>Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p>Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p>Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-)</p> <p>For more information, go to: http://www.gars.org/</p>

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